



Supervisor

**Mark Ridley-Thomas**

Los Angeles County • Second District

# **TO END AND PREVENT HOMELESSNESS**

**Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Second District**

**December 7, 2010**

# PROFILE



# Current Conditions

## Second District

16,567 homeless individuals are recognized within the Second District.

### # of Homeless as a Percentage of Population

	<u>Total Population</u>	<u># of Homeless</u>	Homeless as a % of Supervisory District Population	Homeless as a % of Total County Homeless
SD1	2,102,129	9,399	0.45%	22.01%
SD2	2,097,842	16,567	0.79%	38.80%
SD3	2,097,893	8,221	0.39%	19.26%
SD4	2,035,917	4,117	0.20%	9.64%
SD5	2,131,277	3,573	0.17%	8.37%
Total	<b>10,465,058</b>	<b>42,694</b>	<b>0.41%</b>	<b>98.09%*</b>

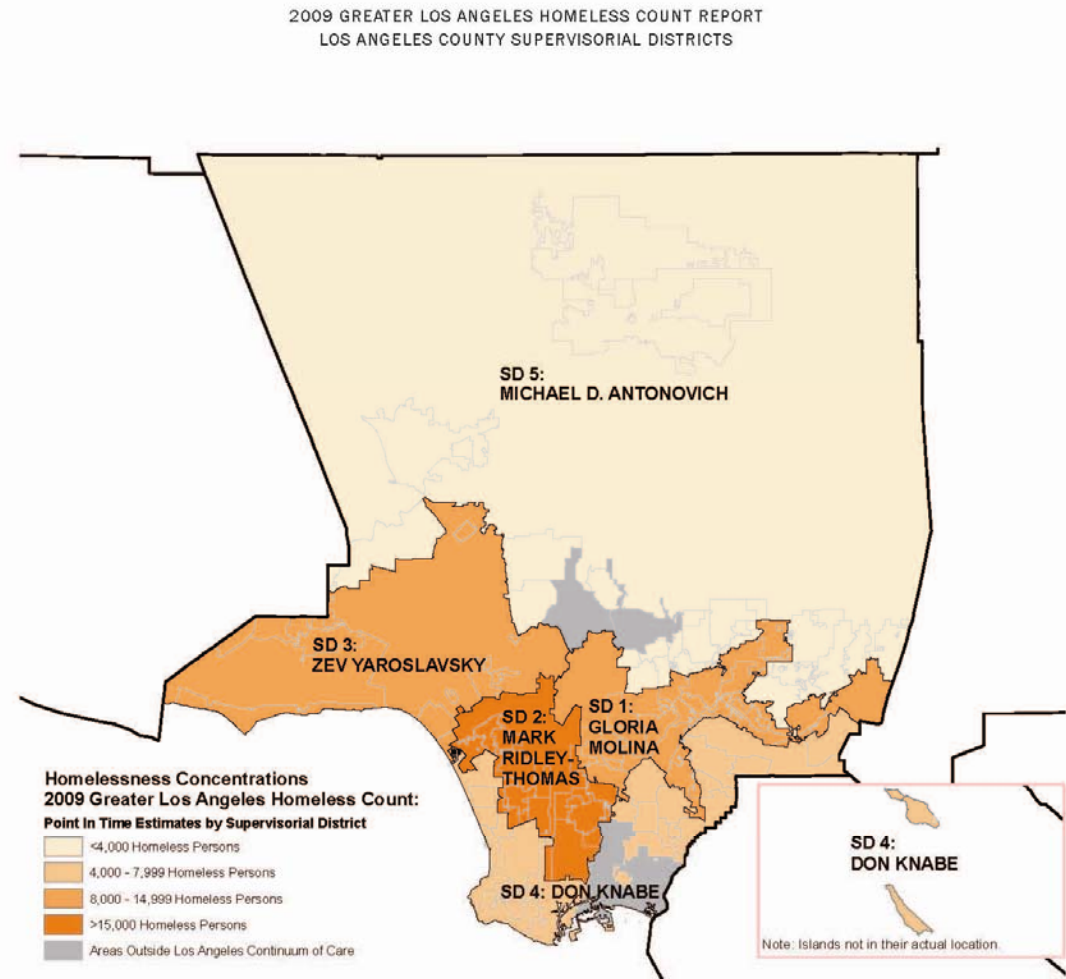
\*817 persons were identified as Unknown Supervisory District

Source: LAHSA 2009 Homeless Count Report

# Current Conditions

## Second District

The Second District has the highest concentration of homelessness in Los Angeles County.

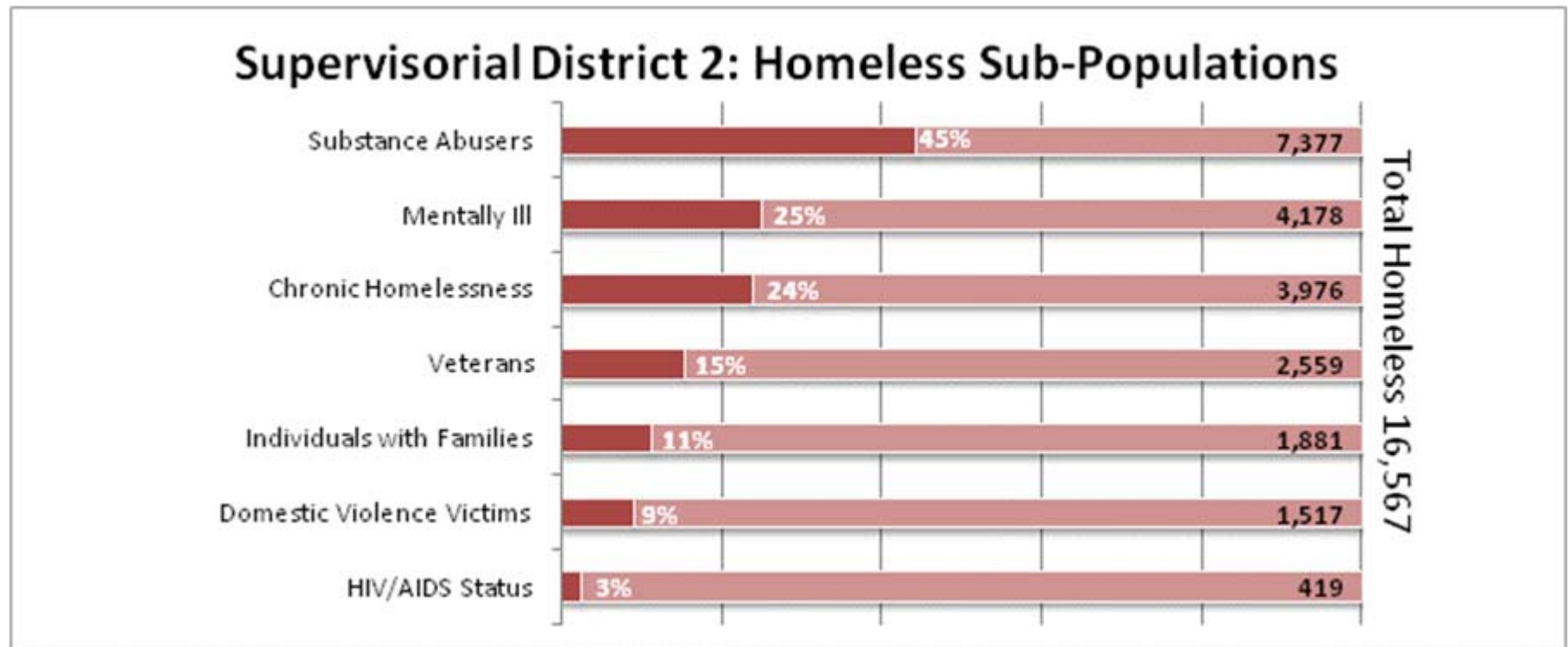


# Current Conditions

## Second District

Second District sub-populations conform with County averages, except for:

- slightly more substance abusers (45% vs. 41%)

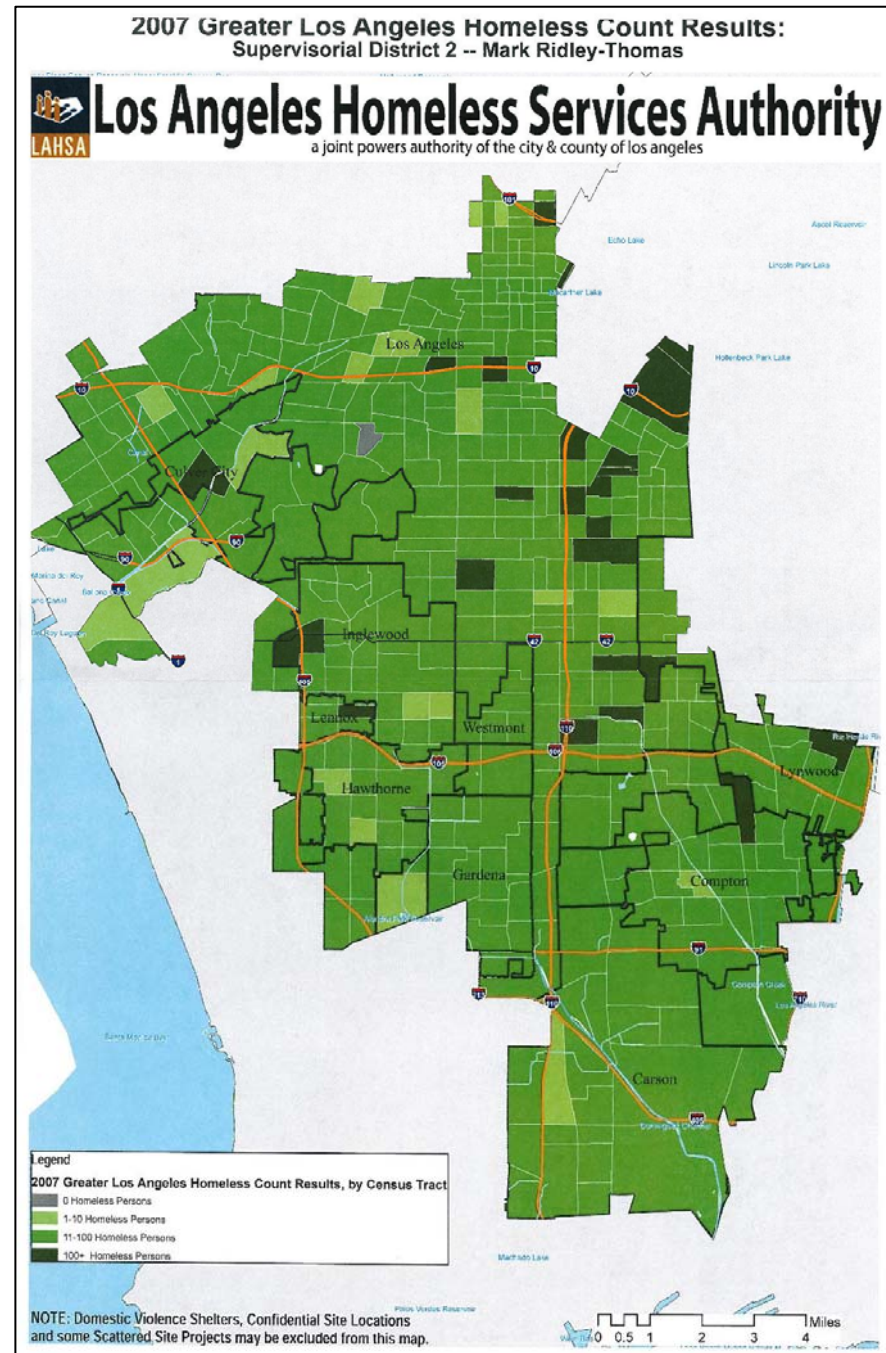


# Current Conditions

## Second District

Homelessness in the Second District is concentrated near Downtown Los Angeles and in a few census tracts across the District.

Mark Ridley-Thomas



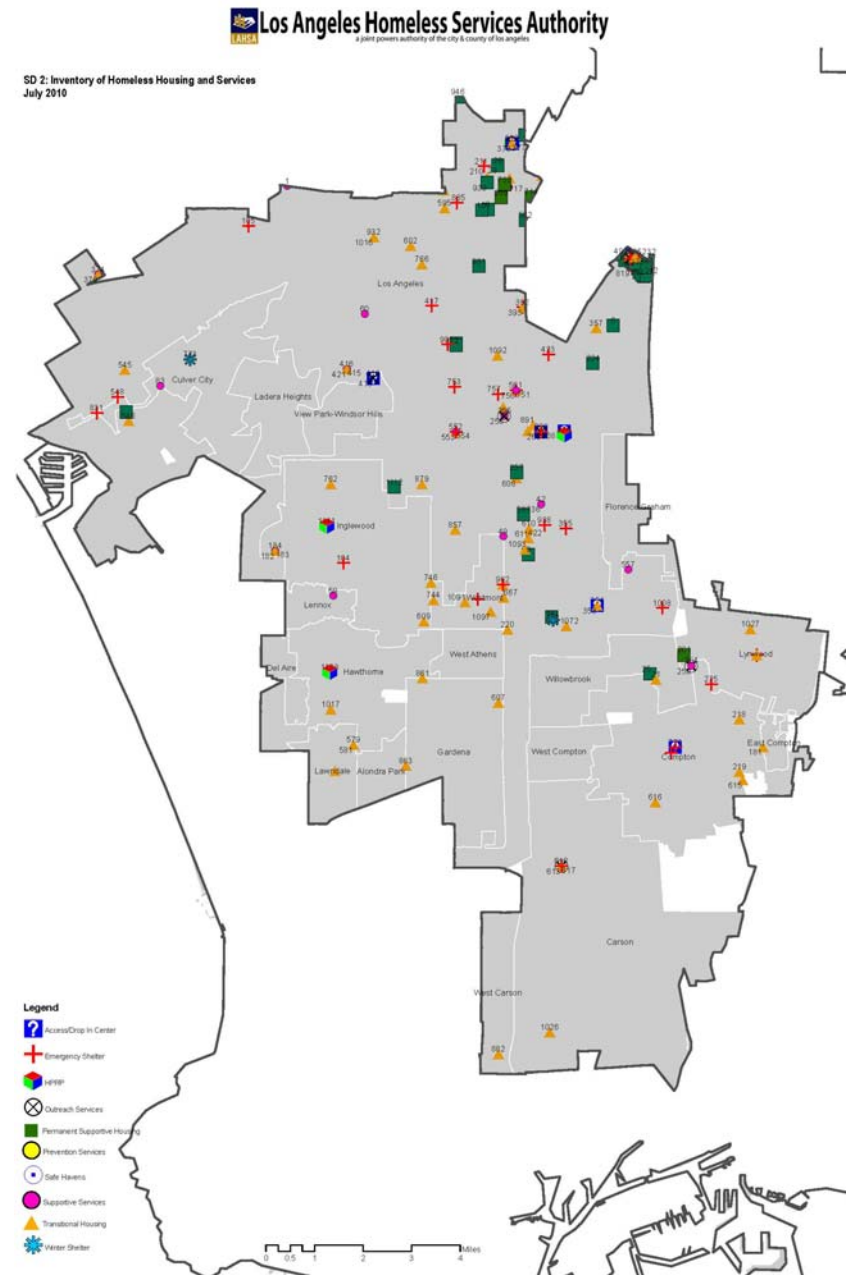


# Current Conditions

## Second District

These locations reflect the distribution of currently available shelters, transitional and supportive housing and services including . . .

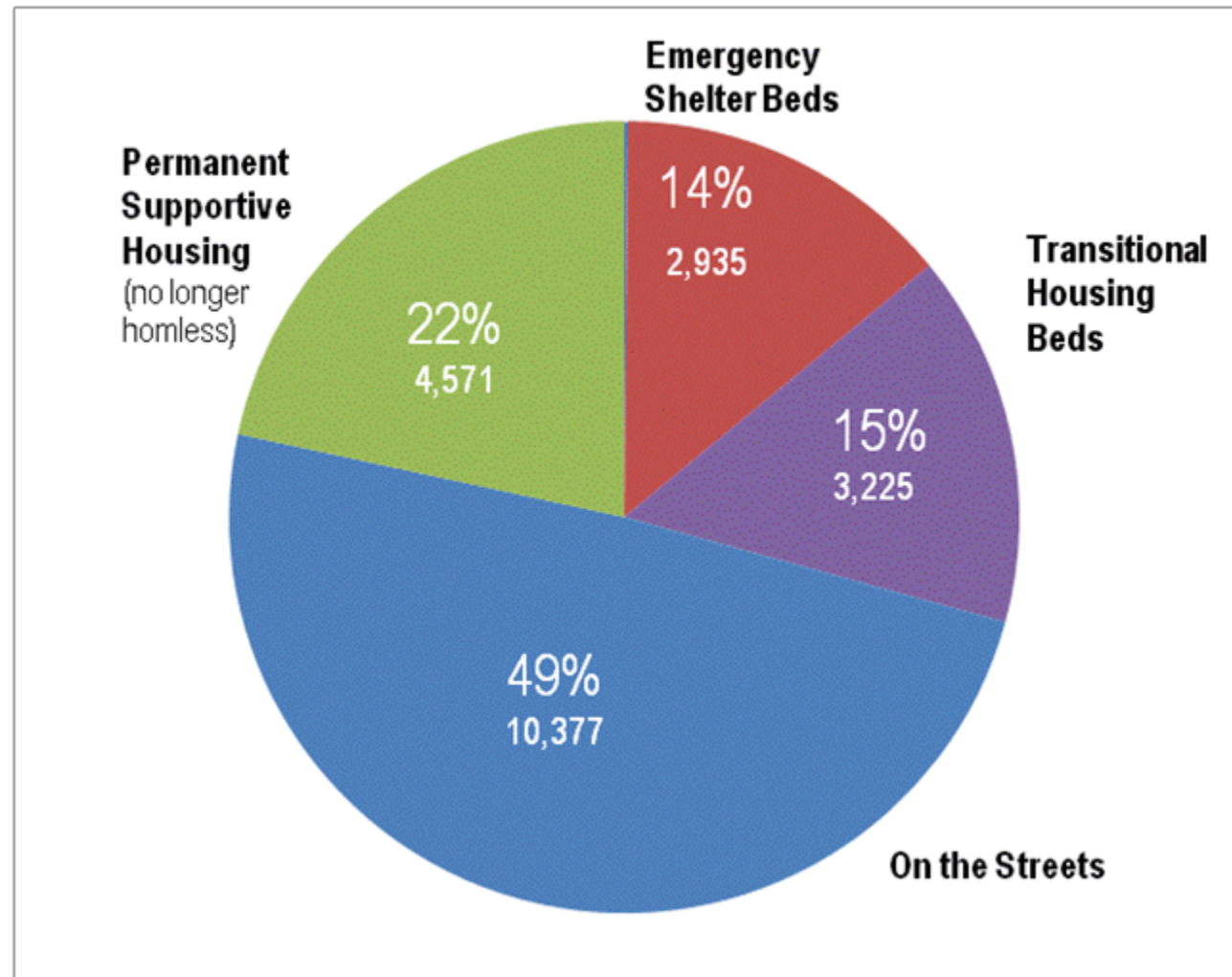
- 48 emergency shelters, 3 winter shelters
- 94 transitional housing
- 26 supportive services
- 70 permanent housing



# Current Conditions

## Second District

Only 22% of the Second District homeless population has found Permanent Supportive Housing.





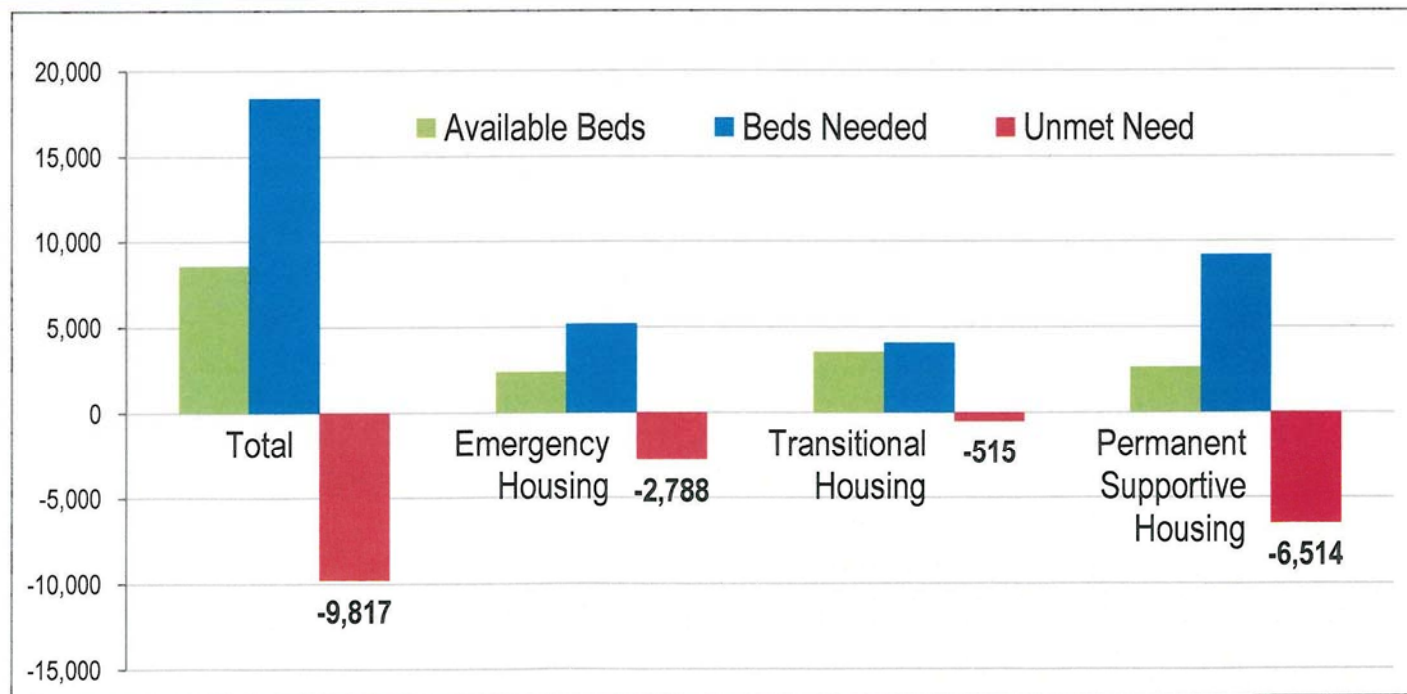
# Current Conditions

## Second District

According to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) the Second District has a current un-met need of:

- 6,514 permanent supportive housing beds
- 9,817 total beds

Unmet Homeless Housing Needs in SD2



# Current Programs

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## Second District

The Second District currently supports 35 programs or projects to address homelessness.

The total amount of funding being invested in these programs and projects, including non-County services of capital for housing development, is in excess of \$175 million.

# Countywide Initiatives

- County Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP)
- State HPRP
- Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority
- DHS \$2 million implementation of RFP to improve SSI/Medi-Cal
- United Way
- Transitional Housing for Families (Respite Center)



# Countywide Initiatives

- Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) housing

MHSA Housing Program is a fund for permanent supportive housing, targeting individuals with serious mental illness who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and their families.

- MHSA innovation

Roughly \$40 million that targets uninsured, underserved (ethnic minorities) and homeless.

- MHSA PEI implementation

\$121.6 million for prevention and early intervention..

# Countywide Initiatives

- Leavey Center

Model of integrated behavioral and primary health care delivery to Skid Row homeless.

- Recuperative Care Beds

LAC has 75 recuperative care beds countywide. 15 of the 75 beds are funded by, and only accessible by, private hospitals. The Department of Health Services funds 25 of these and has exclusive access to those 25 beds.

- Strengthened County Coordination of Homeless Services

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas introduced a motion to strengthen the County's ability to oversee, coordinate and integrate countywide homeless service delivery and to exhaust all creative options to leverage available funds.

# ALTERNATIVES



# Alternatives

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Several models exist for homeless prevention including . . .

- New York Model
- San Francisco Model
- Project 50

# Alternatives

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## New York Model

New York State and New York City entered into a ten year written agreement over what each would bring to a joint effort to combat homelessness through housing, services and other resources.

# Alternatives

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## San Francisco Model

San Francisco Care Not Cash Program mandated clients receive \$59 dollars and housing /shelter, services, and food in lieu of their full cash grant.

If the County can not provide housing/shelter and food, clients receive full cash grant. This model redirects the County annual general fund appropriation from aid payments to housing, food and services.

# Alternatives

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## Project 50

Vulnerability Index used to target most chronically homeless individuals for intensely case-managed supportive services leading to permanent housing.

# PROPOSED ACTION PLAN

# Proposed Action Plan

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## A Second District homelessness prevention policy includes . . .

- Clear guiding principles
- A core set of performance measures and standards
- A streamlined and efficient organizational response
- Targeted program initiatives
- A proper investigation of housing and services
- Leveraging of local community-based and faith-based organizations and resources
- Identification of best practices



# Proposed Action Plan

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- Reinvigorate and empower a Homeless Coordinating office within the CEO's office to oversee and ensure all activities by various County departments are better coordinated and leveraged. This new director would be placed on a rejuvenated SNHA to work with the City and breakdown of all County-wide homeless spending to identify gaps, waste and opportunities.
- Expand and rejuvenate the Special Needs Housing Alliance (SNHA) to include City and high-level County leadership. Charge SNHA or some other groups to report back with a proposed master agreement that would strategically match City housing stock with supportive services.
- Identify and target the most chronically homeless individuals in the Second District and link them with supportive services (case management, health, drug and alcohol counseling) and permanent housing.

# Proposed Action Plan

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## General Relief to SSI South Special Pilot

- The Second District has the highest concentration of homelessness in the County.
- Nearly 4 out off every 10 General Relief recipients live in the Second District.
- All credible policy approaches that end homelessness create more permanent supportive housing and draw down federal and state dollars to defray housing and medical costs.
- Qualifying individuals from GR to SSI is a major strategy to end homelessness, and improve health/mental health for individuals living in the Second District.

# Proposed Action Plan

## General Relief to SSI South Special Pilot (Continued)

- It is vital that GR participants transition from the \$221/month to SSI benefits of \$845/month and also receive Medi-Cal benefits.
- The South Special Welfare Office has the largest GR caseload of any County Welfare Office. **It has more than 17,000 GR cases.**
- As a result, **the South Special welfare office is a pivotal partner in the County's and 2nd Districts efforts to end homelessness.** It is vital that it's GR to SSI efforts be successful.